

**Edison Urges U. S. Confidence**

That the only thing needed to insure a year of great prosperity is a determination on the part of every business man, big and little, to go ahead with absolute confidence in the future, is the contention of Thomas A. Edison, honorary president of the naval consulting board, in a statement to his business associates and friends relative to peace and industry.

There are those who fear a business depression," said Mr. Edison. "The surest way to bring on a depression of business is to nurture fears and act hesitatingly. We now have a national financial system that is capable of meeting practically any situation that can arise, and we do not need to fear difficulties from that quarter. Our farmers have harvested an enormous crop and the assurance of good prices, together with more plentiful labor, make certain a heavy planting next year.

"The only thing needed to insure a year of great prosperity is a determination on the part of every business man, big and little, to go ahead with absolute confidence in the future.

"The business men of this country must see to it that employment is provided for our war workers and returning soldiers. We have shown our service stars and worn our Liberty Loan buttons with pride. Let us take equal pride in doing our share to make employment for the men who have worked and fought to win the war."

**Yankees Compel Boche Band to Play "Star Spangled Banner"**

How an American infantry regiment captured a German band of sixty pieces and forced the Huns to play the "Star Spangled Banner," is told by Corp. E. W. Allan of the Three Hundred and Nineteenth infantry.

Corporal Allan says that the regiment, in a surprise attack without a barrage, took the German band intact. As the victorious Yankees were enroute to the rear with the prisoners they called a halt along the road and by whistling and singing, gave the Germans a working idea of "The Star Spangled Banner."

Just as soon as the Huns had mastered the selection, the American

soldiers lined the prisoners up and forced them to play the national anthem of the United States, to which tune they marched to the prison cages.

**Soldiers to Get Rich U. S. Lands**

Chicago, Nov. 25.—Redemption of America's waste land by the establishment of farm colonies for returned soldiers, a plan proposed by F. C. Howe, United States Commissioner of Immigration, for solving post-war problems, is being strongly endorsed here by authorities on agriculture and economics.

The proposed colonies would be developed along the lines followed in California, where 6,000 acres last spring and let out to farmers in small holdings. The colony has been successfully operated on a co-operative basis.

Commissioner Howe believes that more colonies should be established throughout the country by the government, each one near a city where the produce of the farm could be sold to advantage.

The sites should be selected by experts, as was done in establishing shipbuilding sites. Model villages, with a common dairy, common farming implements, common forest, play grounds and pasture lands are provided in the general plan.

"The farm must be made worth while if we are to stop the influx of people to the city from the country," said Mr. Howe. "The farm must be made profitable to the soldiers returning from Europe. We cannot give them a piece of land to clear of underbrush, or a swamp to drain, and then tell them they can cultivate it. They deserve more than that. The only effect of such procedure would be to make the lands more valuable for the owners who had probably bought the lands years before for a few cents per acre.

"The 'back to the land' theory is pretty," Mr. Howe continued. "But the real difficulty is that we always like the other fellow to go back. The farmer is the Cinderella of politics today, for he gets no help, and then we resent it because he complains."

The time was never more opportune, in the opinion of authorities here, for extending American agriculture by the simple means of mak-

ing adequate land allotments to soldiers.

Mr. Howe said that land monopoly is rapidly being done away with.

"This movement began during the French revolution, when large feudal estates were divided among the common people," he said. "It has been developed by the Russians, and will spread to Austria-Hungary and Germany. Thus in all these countries the peasant or common working man will finally achieve political power.

"Ownership by each man of something really his own goes a long way towards making a country prosperous and truly democratic."

**The Judge Landis Oath**

Rockford, Ill., Nov. 26.—Judge K. M. Landis is taking no chances on rifts and shifts within the German government. In naturalizing a former German citizen, Hugo Weiss, sergeant's headquarters company, Third development battalion, Camp Grant, the clerk of the court said:

"Do you renounce all allegiance to any foreign country or ruler, particularly to Kaiser Wilhelm?"

"But he's abdicated," objected the judge.

"Very well, then, we'll say to the ruler of Germany," said the clerk.

"But Germany is apt to change rulers over night," said the judge.

So finally the pledge of allegiance read: "Renounce allegiance to Kaiser Wilhelm, the present government or any government that may be set up in Germany."

**Collier's Head, Back From Front, Dies Suddenly.**

New York.—Robert J. Collier, editor of Collier's Weekly and president of the publishing house of P. F. Collier & Son, died of heart failure at his home in this city, a few hours after he had landed from an army transport upon which he had returned from a tour of the fronts lasting several months.

If any one doubts that Union County is a farming community, they should visit the Four States Seed Company in Clayton, and ask Mr. Franklin to show Clayton's only elevator. There is more grain stacked on the grown around this elevator than was raised in the state of New Mexico ten years ago.

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